

**THE WEATHER**  
U. S. FORECAST  
Showers and probably thunderstorms today.  
Highest temperature yesterday, 83; low-est, 64.

# THE WASHINGTON HERALD

The Net Circulation of This Newspaper Sunday Was 31,076

**LEADER IN CITY NEWS**  
Ask readers in which paper they get the most city news. They will tell you The Washington Herald leads.

NO. 4726 WASHINGTON, D. C., MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1919. ONE CENT in Washington and suburbs elsewhere Two Cents

## WILSON MAINTAINS SLIGHT PROGRESS

### LABOR AND CAPITAL BEGIN INDUSTRIAL CONFERENCE TODAY

#### SECRETARY WILSON IS TO PRESIDE

Will Read President's Letter And Act as Temporary Secretary—John Barrett To Deliver Address of Welcome to Delegates.

SESSIONS TO BE HELD IN THE PAN AMERICAN

Illness of Mr. Wilson Causes Change—Adjustment of Relations Between Two Bodies Is the Aim of the Conference.

On account of the President's illness the big conference of labor, capital and other group interests which meets here at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon will be held at the Pan American Union Building instead of the White House.

Following an address of welcome to the delegates by John Barrett, director-general of the Pan American Union, Secretary of Labor Wilson will formally open the session by reading the President's letter calling the conference. Secretary Wilson will then discuss the need for a better adjustment of the relations between capital and labor and will act as temporary chairman while permanent organization is effected.

Set Program Avoided. Detailed arrangements for the conference have been in the hands of Hugh L. Kerwin, of the Department of Labor, who has had the benefit of the advice of Bernard M. Baruch, who was one of the President's confidential advisers in Paris. In making the arrangements every effort has been made to avoid a set program with the object of preserving open-mindedness from the beginning toward the important problems on which the conferees will deliberate.

Seating Arrangement. Three groups are arranged for in the seating plan. The fifteen labor delegates named and headed by Samuel Gompers of the American Federation of Labor will be seated on the left. With them, provided they are named, will be the four delegates of the four big railroad brotherhoods.

On the right will be seated the so-called employers' group of representatives of the United States Chamber of Commerce, the Investment Bankers Association of America, the farmers and the National Industrial Conference.

#### WHERE TO GO TONIGHT

- Shubert-Belasco—Nora Bayes in "Ladies First."
- Shubert - Garrick — Walker Whiteside in "Master of Ballantrae."
- Poll's—"The Luck of the Navy."
- National—"Fiddlers Three."
- B. F. Keith's—Vandeville.
- Crandall's Metropolitan—Tom Mix in "Rough-Riding Romance."
- Crandall's Knickerbocker — Tom Mix in "Rough-Riding Romance."
- Crandall's — Madeline Travese in "The Splendid Sin."
- Cosmos—Vandeville and motion pictures.
- Loew's Palace—Wallace Reid in "The Lottery Man."
- Loew's Columbia — "The Other Half," featuring Florence Vidor and Zasu Pitts.
- Moore's Garden—Nell Shipman in "Back to God's Country."
- Moore's Rialto—Mary Pickford in "The Hoodlum."
- Moore's Strand—"The Life Line."
- Gaiety-Burlesque — Mollie Williams.
- Lycum-Burlesque — "The Cabaret Girls."

#### FIGURES IN MYSTERY OF A CHICAGO SONG WRITER'S DEATH



At the top, Leeta Corder, an actress, wife of Tom Purcell was in Chicago with a theatrical company at about the time Purcell died. Her finger prints were taken, together with those of every member of family. No suspicion attached itself to the young woman as the investigation proceeded. At the left is Mrs. Purcell, at the right, her husband, the central figure in the fantastic death puzzle, John Sheehy, Purcell's son-in-law, came to Chicago from Hibbing, Minn., to prove his innocence because a man wearing Sheehy's army cap was seen at a window of the Purcell home shortly before Purcell's death occurred.

#### HARDING QUILTS PRESIDENT RACE

Pulls Out of the Big Stakes And Aspires Only to Senatorship.

Political circles in Ohio were greatly surprised last night, according to dispatches from Columbus, when it was made public through a letter written by Senator Warren G. Harding to a friend that the Senator will not seek the Republican nomination for the Presidency, but that he will ask renomination as Senator.

The withdrawal of Senator Harding opens wide the field in Ohio and marks, incidentally, the first time since 1892 that Ohio has not had a Republican aspirant for the Presidency. Taft has said he is not a candidate. In 1896 and 1900 it was William McKinley; in 1904, Mark Hanna had his eyes on the White House; in 1908 the State had Joseph E. Foraker and William Howard Taft, and in 1912 Taft again. In 1906 Ohio supported Theodore E. Burton.

With Senator Harding voluntarily eliminated, the second choice of Ohio Republicans at this time is probably Brig. Gen. Charles G. Dawes, of Chicago. Myron Herrick may get in the race. It is said that if Herrick decides not to run, he will support Herbert Hoover.

Harding's withdrawal is believed to have been due to his failure to take a decided stand on the treaty. Ohio Republican leaders had severely criticized him for his milk-and-water attitude. Some predicted last night that Harding might soon declare for immediate ratification of the treaty.

#### WEIRD END OF WRITER MYSTIFIES

Conflicting Evidence of Murder and Suicide Baffles Chicago Police Investigating the Death of Elias H. Purcell.

#### "SLAYER'S" FACE SEEN AT VICTIM'S WINDOW

Relatives of Dead Man Insist He Was Murdered. Had Lost Heavily in the Stock Market Immediately Before His Death.

Chicago, Oct. 5.—Death from nicotine poisoning.

A camouflaged breakfast, never intended to be eaten.

These and other fantastic details make the fate of Elias H. Purcell, song writer and business man, read as though they had been invented by a writer of fiction.

And it would seem to be literally a fact that a writer who had published short stories—devoted the whole mystery which Coroner Hoffman declares to be the "most baffling death puzzle in the history of Chicago."

Picture of Murder.

The story opens with the discovery made by the janitor of Purcell's apartment house.

A man past 60 sat bound in a chair with rope, a towel gag tied about his mouth.

His dead eyes retained a stare of horror; his features were set in an expression of unspeakable fear.

The furnishings of the flat were tossed about; bundles of rug, china and other articles had been made up.

One of the dead man's pockets had been turned inside out, but his watch was found in a roll of rug.

There was a skeleton key in the back door.

In the kitchen, where the body sat, a table was spread for three. There were remnants of coffee, eggs and toast.

Another table had been overturned, as though in a struggle.

The only marks on the body were faint abrasions on the scalp.

Purcell was reputed to be worth about \$50,000, and it was known that he had recently cashed a number of liberty bonds.

Sea-in-Law's Coat Found.

In the flat was a coat and an army officer's cap identified as the property of John Sheehy, of Hibbing, Minn., Purcell's son-in-law.

A milkman said that early Sunday morning he had seen the face of a young man wearing an officer's cap, peering from the window of Purcell's home.

This milkman said that a minute or two later he heard groans and the sound of breaking glass.

Work on the puzzle proceeded along three lines. Detectives traced the movement of every member of the

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#### MR. WILSON'S LATEST PICTURE



This picture of the President was taken on his arrival in Washington from his long speech-making trip. It shows graphically how worn Mr. Wilson is, despite his brave smile.

#### TRUCE CALLED IN BRITISH STRIKE

Compromise Reached In Conference—Men Go Back to Work.

London, Oct. 5.—A truce was negotiated this afternoon in the greatest industrial struggle in the history of Britain when Premier Lloyd George and Andrew Bonar Law, for the government, reached a compromise with the railway men's union and the intermediary union representatives at a conference at 10 Downing street.

The men agreed to return to work forthwith pending negotiations of the wage status under the guarantee that there will be a settlement by October 31, and conditionally upon the government's guarantee that there will be no reduction in wages before September 30, 1920.

Men to Return to Work.

The men received the additional guarantee from the government that no railway workers are to receive less than about \$12.30 weekly instead of about \$4.40 paid them before the war as long as the cost of living is not less than 110 per cent above the pre-war level.

#### BARRETT HOME, DENIES HE QUIT PAN AMERICAN

Immediately after he returned to Washington last night from New Orleans and New York, John Barrett, director general of the Pan American Union, issued a statement denying reports that he had resigned as head of the union.

"I want to make it plain that any announcement relative to my being asked to resign is premature and unauthorized. While it is true that flattering inducements have been offered me to resign and accept unofficial executive positions in the Pan American financial and commercial field which are tempting because I am today a very poor man as a result of giving nearly twenty years official service to the cause of Pan Americanism, nothing one way or the other could be known or announced until after the meeting of the governing board of the Pan American Union in November and therefore all reports are purely speculative."

#### CABINET PLANS PARLEY LIAISON

Special Committee to Keep In Touch With Paris and Labor Conference.

The primary purpose of the Cabinet meeting, according to the statement of an important member of that body, is the creation of a special Cabinet committee to do two things:

To keep constantly in touch with the Industrial Conference in order that the conference may be fully informed of the ideas which the President had in calling it and which he had made known to the members of his Cabinet.

To act as a sort of a liaison between the administration and the American Peace Commission in Paris.

There are not a few of the Cabinet members who hold the opinion that the results of the Industrial Conference may have a more far reaching effect on the well-being of the administration than the result of the Senate action on the peace treaty and the league of nations' covenant.

For this reason, it was indicated by a member of the Cabinet, the first important act of the special Cabinet meeting would be the appointment of a committee of the Cabinet to play, as nearly as possible, at the meetings of the Industrial Conference, the role which the President would have assumed.

This special committee will either sit with the conference or be at hand when its presence is desired. This arrangement, it was pointed out, will preserve, at every moment of the sessions of the conference, the relationship between the conference and the administration which is desirable and necessary, in the administration's viewpoint, to the success of the conference.

Sylvia Pankhurst Coming.

London, Oct. 5.—Sylvia Pankhurst, militant suffrage leader, has quietly sailed for America. It was learned today. It is stated that because in her forthcoming lecture tour in the United States she will have something to say that will not please the British authorities, she feared interference with her plans and therefore avoided all publicity in connection with her trip.

Crown Prince Visits Parents.

The Hague, Oct. 5.—The former German crown prince has returned to Weiringen following a brief visit to his father.

Dutch delegates to the Washington Labor Conference will leave here for the American Capital October 10.

#### SEND TROOPS TO GARY, IND.

The Authorities Will Take Every Precaution to Prevent Trouble.

Gary, Ind., Oct. 5.—The authorities were prepared tonight to take a determined stand if trouble develops tomorrow when steel workers return to their work in defiance of strikers. Eight hundred troops have been concentrated at Indiana Harbor, where 3,500 men are expected to march into the plants for work at 7 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Gov. Goodrich today issued a proclamation of martial law. The military authorities were empowered to fill in the name of any town or district where they considered martial law necessary. At the first sign of trouble the proclamation will be posted.

Maryland Official Resigns.

Baltimore, Md., Oct. 5.—Thomas W. Simmons, secretary of state, today tendered his resignation to Governor Harrington. It was accepted. Mr. Simmons will go to New York and will engage in the banking business, taking charge of the bonding and brokerage department of Solomon Brothers and

Hutches.

Purcell was an invalid. His insurance policies might be affected if it were proved that he killed himself.

#### MURDER or SUICIDE?

Elias H. Purcell was bound in a chair, a towel tied about his face.

Nicotine poisoning had killed him.

Household goods had been wrapped up in sheets, as though to steal them.

A face peered from the window of the flat and a sound of breaking glass and groans were heard.

Purcell was reputed to be worth \$50,000, but only \$56 in bank deposits can be found, and no cash in the flat.

Purcell wrote to his wife that he was in fear of violence.

A table had been overturned in the kitchen, suggesting a struggle.

No container for the poison was found.

Purcell's family insists that he was cheerful and optimistic. The rope which bound the dead man was only a yard in length; the knots were loosely

#### PRESIDENT BOTHERED BY MUSIC

Orchestra on the Roof of a Hotel Near the White House Is Forced to Stop Its Jazzying By Grayson's Request.

#### HEAT WAS IRRITATING TO PATIENT YESTERDAY

President Would Like to Send Word to the Industrial Conference, But Physician Forbids Any Attention to Business.

President Wilson fought another excessively hot and humid day yesterday, but maintained the slight progress that was noted in his condition the previous night.

While he is believed to be on a slow road to recovery the daily bulletins of Rear Admiral Cary T. Grayson, his personal physician, indulge in no fond expectations because of the nature of the President's illness and its liability to sudden change.

The extreme heat bothered the President quite a bit yesterday afternoon; he felt somewhat depressed, but along toward evening he picked up and was in his usual good spirits.

Regains Appetite.

Showing signs of a rejuvenated appetite and fresh from the last night's sleep he has had since he was taken ill. President Wilson late yesterday was in better shape than at any time heretofore in his sickness.

Under ordinary circumstances the slight gain registered by the President Saturday, coupled with the encouraging condition his doctors found him in yesterday, might be incentive for the thought that he is on the road to recovery. But this is not the case as yet. His illness, it was repeated, is fluctuating in nature, and yesterday's gain might be obliterated by a setback today.

So Dr. Grayson is and will continue to be extremely cautious in the wording of his bulletins until he and the other physicians are positive beyond the peradventure of a doubt that he is getting well, and that nothing can interfere with the process.

Bulletins Cheerful.

Yesterday and Saturday the bulletins from Dr. Grayson have been cheerful and expressive of hope. For this reason they are in marked contrast with his official utterances of the two preceding days. Those told the nation that the President was a very sick man; in fact that he was gravely ill.

The President wanted to go to work yesterday, and this constituted another encouraging sign. He asked Admiral Grayson what the news of the day was, then requested permission to send for two of the White House stenographers so he might make a start in catching up in his work. But Dr. Grayson was as cold to the proposal as a January blast from Medicine Hat.

He recalled to the President that yesterday was Sunday, then he told him that he was a good Presbyterian.

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#### NOT A BITE OF WAR SURPLUS CANDY FOR D.C.

Almost sugarless Washington isn't going to get a bit of the surplus candy supply the War Department is making arrangements to sell.

Already facing a curtailment of its retail supply because of a shortage of sugar, not one gum drop in the 1,300,000 pounds of candy left over from the war is going to be available to Capitalites—unless they travel for it.

Five cities, New York, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Boston and Atlanta, are named as the centers for disposing of the surplus candy.

This surplus stock of candy consists of chocolates, caramels, assorted sticks and lemon drops, and will be sold in pound and half-pound packages. Assorted chocolates will be offered at 15 cents a half-pound and 30 cents a pound, and the other candy at 15 cents a half-pound and 35 cents a pound.